

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

08/941,459

Examiner

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

Applicant(s)

MORIKAWA, TAKESHI

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment dated 9/12/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-6, 13-16 and 23-30 (renumbered as claims 1-3, 5-12, 4 and 13-15, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date 1/28/99.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 8/3/99.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
JOSEPH R. POKRZYWA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2622

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 9/12/05, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 4-6, 13-16, and 23-30** are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 4-6, 13-16, and 23-30** are allowed (renumbered as **claims 1-3, 5-12, 4, and 13-15, respectively**).

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **claims 4, 13, and 28 (renumbered claims 1, 5, and 13, respectively)**, in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious to have the systems, as claimed, include an operational panel for selecting operable modes of operation, whereby the display and selection of an inoperable mode of operation through the operation panel is automatically prohibited based on the result of the comparison between the state of at least two frames of pixel density data. The closest prior art, Sumida *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,383,754), fails to teach these limitations, and the examiner finds no motivation to combine Sumida with other references to achieve the desired outcome. Because of this, the claims are rendered allowable.

Regarding **claim 23 (renumbered claim 9)**, in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious to have the system, as claimed, include a memory for storing a plurality of print jobs, with each print job containing pixel density data of at least two frames, a print-job selector for selecting one of the plurality of print jobs stored in the memory, and a state decision

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controller for determining, for each frame, a state of a frame of the pixel density data contained in the selected print-job. The closest prior art, Sumida *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,383,754), fails to teach these limitations, and the examiner finds no motivation to combine Sumida with other references to achieve the desired outcome. Because of this, the claim is rendered allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

4. In order to avoid abandonment, the changes indicated in the proposed drawing changes dated 4/29/99, which have been approved by the examiner in the Office action dated 8/3/99, must now be corrected. Correction can only be effected in the manner set forth in the above noted paper.

5. The drawings filed on 9/30/97 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948, being part of the Office action dated 1/28/99. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Tomidokoro *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,722,029) discloses an image forming system that detects sheet sizes; and

Nakai *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,909,602) discloses an image forming device that prohibits a copying operation.

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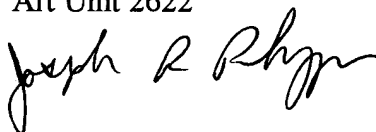
Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622



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